United Nations A/69/866–S/2015/247

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2015
English
Original: French

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 28
Report of the Security Council

Security Council
Seventieth year

Letter dated 6 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr. Salaheddine Mezouar, in which he reiterates the categorical opposition of the Kingdom of Morocco to any role or involvement whatsoever of the African Union in the question of the Moroccan Sahara (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 28, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Omar **Hilale**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 6 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Following the letter sent to you recently by the African Union Commission on the question of the Moroccan Sahara, I would like to reiterate the categorical opposition of the Kingdom of Morocco to any role or involvement, in whatever form, of the African Union in this issue.

The non-negotiable position of Morocco against the renewed attempts of the African Union to interfere in the issue of the Moroccan Sahara has already been explained in the letter sent to you by His Majesty King Mohammed VI in June 2013. It was reiterated in the letters sent by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ms. M'barka Bouaida, on 26 December 2013, and by the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations on 9 June and 1 July 2014.

The Kingdom of Morocco considers totally unacceptable the recent manoeuvring by the African Union in requesting an interaction between its "Special Envoy", Mr. Joaquim Chissano, and the Security Council.

Allow me to recall the legitimate reasons behind the position of the Kingdom of Morocco against any involvement of the African Union in the question of the Moroccan Sahara:

- The political negotiation process on the issue of the Moroccan Sahara is held under the exclusive auspices of the United Nations. The appropriation of this question by the United Nations occurred following the successive failures of the Organization of the African Unity to deal with the dispute.
- The African Union divested itself of neutrality since it openly took position in favour of the other parties, by launching an aggressive and permanent campaign against the Kingdom of Morocco and by taking up the arguments of Algeria and the "Polisario". The latest decision of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union on the issue of the Moroccan Sahara is a new illustration of the flagrant partiality of that organization in the matter.
- The African Union prejudged, in a biased manner, the outcome of the political negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations, by admitting, within its membership, an entity that has no attribute of sovereignty.
- The credibility of the African Union on the issue of the Moroccan Sahara is compromised given its position which contradicts the fundamentals of the United Nations process towards a negotiated and mutually acceptable political solution, based on a realistic approach and a spirit of compromise.
- Through its attempts to revive obsolete proposals and plans considered unachievable by the United Nations, the African Union clearly seeks to undermine the United Nations efforts currently undertaken under your auspices.

For all these reasons, the ploys of the African Union to interfere in this matter will be fatal to the entire political process conducted under the auspices of the United Nations, which has the support of all the parties and the international community, including the African countries.

Therefore, Morocco would like you, as guarantor of the integrity of the negotiations process, to guard against any attempt to involve the African Union in this issue or to grant it any role or opportunity for interaction, which would have serious consequences for the United Nations efforts on the issue of the Moroccan Sahara.

For its part, the Kingdom of Morocco would like to reiterate, once again, its commitment to the process of political negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations. In this regard, Morocco would like to renew the expression of its full confidence in your efforts to reach a negotiated and mutually acceptable political solution to the question of the Moroccan Sahara, in line with your telephone conversation with His Majesty King Mohammed VI on 22 January 2015.

(*Signed*) Salaheddine **Mezouar**